

Wednesday, 25 March 2020

Further testing at Albert Park

The Environment Protection Authority has asked landholders of six properties at Albert Park for access to their properties to conduct environmental assessments.

The EPA has been undertaking assessment work since March 2019 near a site at Albert Park that was used to manufacture tin cans between 1940 and 1984.

Groundwater near the site, at 24 Murray Street, is known to be contaminated with trichloroethene (TCE) from historical industrial chemical use. TCE was used for metal cleaning and historic handling instructions were to tip it out onto the ground.

On 12 September 2019 the EPA established a groundwater prohibition area to protect current and future residents from contaminated groundwater in parts of Hendon, Royal Park, Seaton and Albert Park. Residents are reminded that bore water should not be used for any purpose.

EPA Director Regulation, Peter Dolan, said the EPA had recently received results from a second stage of soil vapour sampling in the area.

“The next stage of our work at Albert Park will be looking at whether the TCE contamination has entered residential indoor air as vapour at six private properties,” he said.

“These homes are in the immediate vicinity of the highest groundwater and soil vapour concentrations we found, so they require site-specific testing.

“We’ve contacted those property owners to seek permission to conduct tests.”

The tests will determine whether there is contaminated vapour coming from the groundwater that could enter indoor air.

In the rare instance that a home is affected by vapour contamination, the EPA works with residents to manage any potential health risk.

For more information, please visit

https://www.epa.sa.gov.au/data_and_publications/site_contamination_monitoring/assessment_areas/albert-park